EO on cheap drugs takes effect Aug. 15

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE EXECUTIVE ORDER SETTING A price ceiling on essential drugs will take effect on Aug. 15, but will cover only at least six medicines whose manufacturers refused to sell at half their current prices, according to the health department.

Among these medicines, which drug firms offered at price cuts of only 34 to 38 percent, is the widely popular antihypertensive drug amlodipine. Health Secre-

EO ON A4

Army ready to answer raps on Fil-Am torture

By Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon
Jerome Aning and Tara Quismundo
in Manila

ARMY OFFICIALS IN CENTRAL LUZON said they were ready to attend hearings on the alleged abduction and torture by the military of Filipino-American activist Melissa Roxas and two others.

ARMY / A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, July 21, 2009 • 5 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 223 P18

Angry GMA eyes death penalty revival

Girl's father devastated, blames self, says lawmaker

By Arlyn de la Cruz
Correspondent at large

A LAWMAKER LEADING A CONgressional inquiry into illegal drugs yesterday said a weekend attack allegedly carried out by a drug syndicate had left an antinarcotics agent devastated upon learning that his young daughter was abducted, drugged and raped.

"He's devastated but he remains determined to pursue his campaign against illegal drugs," Bacon Norte Rep. Roquito Ablan, chair of the House committee on dangerous drugs, said in Filipino.

GIRL'S A4

By Christian V. Esguerra
and Inquirer Northern Luzon

AN OUTRAGED PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday threw her full support behind antinarcotics authorities after members of a drug syndicate purportedly abducted and raped a government agent's daughter at the weekend.

"The President is very upset," Lorelei Fajardo, deputy presidential spokesperson, said in Filipino. "Our agents should not be demoralized because no less than President Arroyo is behind them."

The reported attack on the girl, a minor, appeared to have so incensed Ms Arroyo that Malacañang said it would look into proposals to revive the death penalty, specifically for drug traffickers.

In 2006, Ms Arroyo backed the abolition of capital punishment in the Philippines.

Fajardo said the Palace also

ANGRY A4



PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo leads Monday's groundbreaking ceremony of the Sta. Rosario potable water supply system in Floridablanca.

Rape sparks shock, rage

Lawmakers back call for all-out war

By Michael Lim Ubac
and Arlyn de la Cruz, *Correspondent at large*

SHOCK AND RAGE AT THE reported rape of a narcotics agent's daughter by drug traffickers swept official circles yesterday, as the chief of a major drug enforcement agency warned of a bloody fight-to-the finish with drug lords.

Presidential aspirant Sen. Loren Legarda called on the Arroyo administration to "smash" drug syndicates, while Speaker Prospero Nograles said the Philippines must never allow itself to become a country where drug lords hold sway.

Retired Gen. Dionisio Santiago, chief of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), said unless drug gangs were curtailed, the Philippines could become another Mexico, a country in Latin America where thousands of people have been

RAPE A4



ANTINARCOTICS agents, heavily armed and in full battle regalia, make their way through a crowded alley during a raid on the house of an alleged drug dealer in Barangay Sto. Tomas, Pasig City.

Among Ed: It's back to priesthood if he loses

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

AFTER SAYING HE WAS PREPARED to leave the priesthood to run for president next year, Pampanga Gov. Eddie Panlilio yesterday said he would seek reinstatement in the Catholic Church if he lost.

Suspended from his priestly duties during his three-year term as Pampanga governor, Panlilio said he found it hard to give up his clerical role completely.

The Church prohibits its priests from running for public office.

Panlilio's immediate superior, San Fernando Archbishop Paciano Aniceto, has warned the governor that he should ask for dispensation from the Church should he run for a higher office.

"That's the point. That calls for a big sacrifice because I truly love being a priest. In fact should I lose I will still return to the priesthood if I could," Panlilio said.

Told that the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines had said that he could no longer be reinstated since

AMONG ED A4

Party-list groups swamp poll body

By Kristine L. Alave

ASKED BY THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (Comelec) what he plans to do with pork barrel funds, an aspiring party-list representative claiming to be a champion of migrant workers' rights failed to get to unveil his masterplan.

He would use the money, he said, mainly to pay for the workers' airfare.

PARTY-LIST A4



SC asked to stop release of ₱7.2B for poll contract

By Norman Bordadora

THE SUPREME COURT WAS asked yesterday to stop the Commission on Elections (Comelec) from releasing payments for the ₱7.2-billion project to automate next year's balloting.

In a seven-page "very urgent motion," the Concerned Citizens' Movement (CCM) expressed fear that the government might lose a huge amount of money if the high court subsequently nullified the Comelec deal with Smartmatic and Total Information Management (TIM).

The CCM had earlier questioned the legality of the contract and requested the court to issue a temporary restraining order on the signing of the deal on July 10. Although the court did not stop the signing, it nevertheless set a hearing on July 28.

Under the contract, the Comelec has to pay the consortium ₱2.9 billion, representing 40 percent of the contract cost, even before the first of the 82,200 counting machines could be delivered in November.

The CCM said its study showed that the initial payments would cover the project setup and software purchases, development cost, transmission

SC ASKED A4

Renal attraction: His heart for your kidney

By Nikko Dizon

SAYING "I DO" MEANS NEVER having to give up your kidneys.

Government officials warned Filipino nationals and foreigners against entering into a sham marriage to harvest a kidney as a way of circumventing the Philippine law against organ trafficking.

Social Welfare Secretary Esperanza Cabral yesterday said during a press conference that she had received reports about the modus operandi.

Cabral related that two months ago, a Saudi national went to the National Kidney Institute (NKI) in Quezon City to schedule a kidney transplant.

The donor: His new Filipino wife.

"NKI saw through the [sham]

RENAL A4





GEARING UP FOR SONA A cleaner (above) spruces up the session hall in the Batasan complex while policemen (left) gather at Camp Crame in preparation for the 9th State of the Nation Address of President Macapagal-Arroyo on July 27.

Second FRONTPAGE

MEGALOTTO 6/45
3 6 7 17 21 26
P23,004,910.80

1 slain, 7 hurt in 2 Mindanao blasts

COTABATO CITY—A MILITIAMAN WAS KILLED when an improvised explosive device went off Monday morning near a Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) detachment in Upi, Maguindanao.

Red Cross backs Sulu vice gov

More solons joining boycott of GMA Sona



Ruby Rose accused can see evidence

Clarification


ETHAN
ALLEN
Special Savings
Modern Living


Panasonic
PABX Telephone System


THE GENERICS PHARMACY
Anti-Hypertensive
Amlodipine
Besylate Tab
7127777


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be one of the 30 lucky winners at the Grand Draw!
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ALLIED BANK
Mabuhay Miles

Deadly drug war raging in Mexico

In The Know

La Familia

Narco-politics

"Silver or lead"

Rape sparks shock, rage



"We will not be cowed"

Syndicate-backed candidates

Not by soundbites

No to death penalty

Angry GMA eyes death penalty revival

"This is war"

Different version

Medical examination

Drinking spree

The Daily Gospel

Girl's father devastated, blames self, says solon



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Among Ed: It's back to priesthood if…

All about money

Not now, not right

Arroyo backing continues

Army ready to answer raps

Hearing on July 30

Fact-finding mission

SC asked to stop release of ₱7.2B for poll deal

Ridiculous and unfair

Special urgency

Party-list groups swamp poll body

Poor grasp

'Confusing'

Renal attraction: Your heart for my kidney

Rise in sham marriages

Transplant tourism

Organ-trafficking hot spots

After-care program

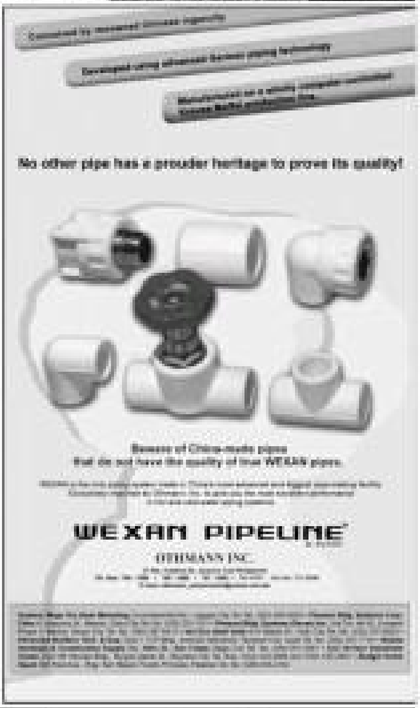
Enrol special kids, parents urged





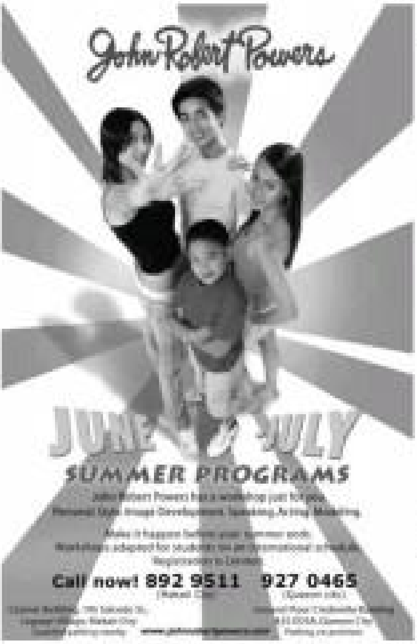














Mar brings Pfizer 'bribe' case before US gov't

EO on cheap drugs takes effect Aug. 15



Asean: New watchdog not toothless

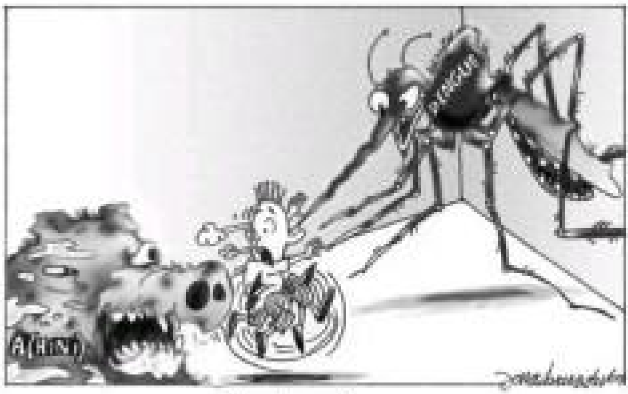
J. A. [illegible]: 95

Opinion

Smash the syndicates

Editorials

Spare the trees



Obsolete image

Viewpoint

Juan L. Mercado

Come together

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros

Speculating about Noli

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan



Indifference

YOUNG BLOOD

Terence Krishna V. Lopez

Hypertensive drug prices

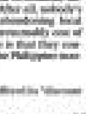
AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Debating Manny Villar

NEWSSTAND



John Nery

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS

THEY SAID

Underestimated

Principled politics

LETTERS

Limit use of service vehicles

'Bringing back' RP's endangered native trees

Bureaucratic red tape imperils water service

Jackson's music, dance are things that matter

Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

NDF, NPA apologize for Negros attack

NEWSBRIEFS

■ GENERAL SANTOS CITY

Key bridge collapses

■ BATANGAS

Oil spill thwarted

■ LUCENA CITY

Bomb materials found

■ LEGAZPI CITY

Woman, kid abducted

■ CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

30 eagles freed

■ CAVITE

Police offices inspected



T'NALAK FESTIVAL

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—THE COMMUNIST-led National Democratic Front (NDF) and the New People's Army (NPA) in Negros on Sunday apologized for an ambush waged in Toboso town in Negros Occidental by one of their units that left three civilians dead and three others wounded.

No intention

Mayon watchmen prepare for emergency

Military, police vehicles

Relief support

Standby vehicles

Parents, school execs asked to monitor children on drugs

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

Contador rules Tour's 15th stage in the Alps

Recharged RP cagers overwhelm Kazakhs

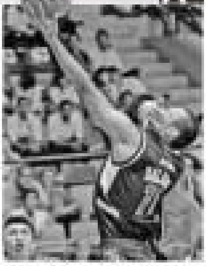


By Musong R. Castillo

Filipinos need to adjust to int'l game, fast—Uichico

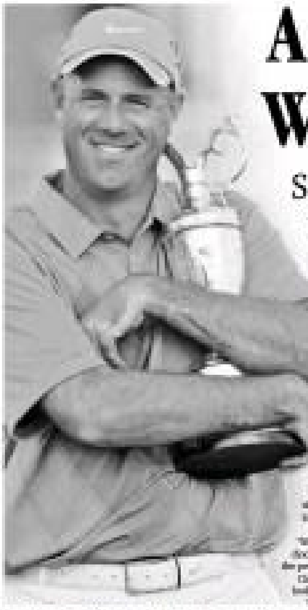
By Musong R. Castillo

Relentless Stags destroy dour Chiefs



Olympians demolish Scorpions, share lead

A Cink in weary Watson's armor



Surprise British Open champion watches as Tom self-destructs

Kiwis just too much for RP Blu Boys



Gun-beating triumph for the small man

BARE EYE

Ricardo Trinidad

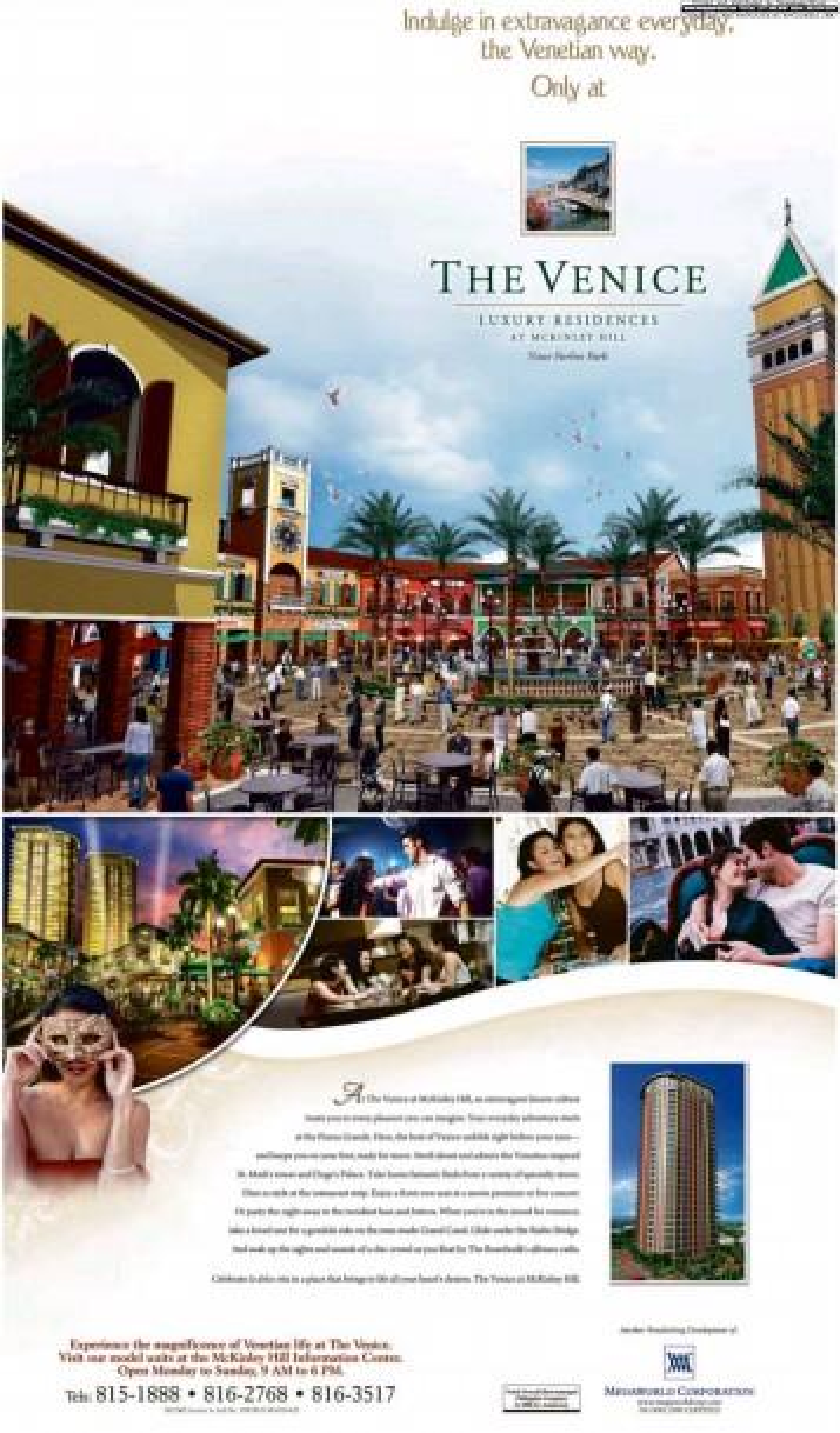


SPORTSWATCH

Super Folayang whips Guam rival in URCC

GDAP promises bigger Golf Show on Sept. 4 to 6

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DID YOU KNOW

Gas station loses ₱130,000 to thieves

3 men block cashier on her way to bank

THREE ARMED MEN ON BOARD A MOTORCYCLE robbed a gasoline station in Manila yesterday morning, stealing nearly ₱130,000 in cash and checks.



'BEAUTIFICATION' TEST

Cops foil attempt to kidnap Indian

By DJ Yap

Makati City gov't launches project, shares energy tips

By Allison W. Lopez

All-out war on drugs as a result of rape

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo



Arraignment of Taguig mayor's alleged relative reset

By Nina Catherine Calleja

Man in shooting attack beaten up by victim's kin

By Jeannette I. Andrade

MetroBriefs

Teen nabbed for stealing

Jeannette I. Andrade

2 men gunned down in QC

Sienna College QC reunion

Police: Explosives in hotels 'identical' to Bali



A MAN places a flower on July 20 on a memorial for the victims of the bomb blasts outside the JW Marriott hotel in Jakarta. AP

S. Africa tests AIDS vaccine

56 go on trial over alleged plot to topple Turkey government

India rebuffs Clinton on emissions



CLINTON

Solar eclipse: Celestial geometry vs superstition

The WORLD

Honduras crisis talks fail; civil war feared

TEGUCIGALPA—AN international mediator warned of civil war in Honduras after the failure of talks between representatives of the country's rival governments.



ZELAYA

New drug for lupus seen as promising



Mumbai attacker pleads guilty in court



PNB MOVES TO BANCNET

IN THIS ISSUE

- **NTC ban seen to affect** legit SMS services /B4
- **BSP reviewing** interest rate policy /B6

BUSINESS

SMC eyes ₱15-B Tarlac-La Union toll road

Food and beverage firm enters 'nonbinding' acquisition talks

SAN MIGUEL CORP. HAS SIGNED A NONBINDING deal to acquire a "significant" stake in a private sector consortium that owns the P15.36-billion Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Toll Expressway project.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

STOCK MARKET

Shares close up

At ₱153B, gov't keeps budget gap below ceiling for H1

Telco regulator 'powerless' to act on prepaid text blasts

MPIC acquiring FirstPac, PLDT stakes in Meralco

By Doris C. Dumlao

Global crisis, volatile fuel prices hit PAL

Paradox of the need to be right

MARKET RIDER



End of Week Six

Bottom line spin

Another corporate lesson

Portfolio Summary and Overall Performance Standings For Week Six: July 13-17, 2009

Philippine Stock Exchange

Currencies

Meralco to refinance debt

By Ray S. Eñano

MANILA ELECTRIC CO., the country's biggest electricity distributor, plans to borrow P3.5 billion in the current quarter, to refinance loans maturing early next year.

In a briefing, Meralco first vice president and treasurer Rafael Andrada said several financial institutions had submitted proposals to the utility, but its board had yet to make a choice.

Andrada said the amount to be raised would go entirely to the repayment of an outstanding P3.5-billion syndicated loan which will fall due in January 2010.

On top of this, Meralco also plans to refinance P11 billion in loans maturing in 2010, according to a disclosure last month.

Andrada earlier said the company might borrow another P8 billion to refinance the initial tranche of these loans.

In its first quarter report, Meralco said its total debt declined by 29 percent to P16.84 billion from P22.77 billion a year ago.

Its short-term debt dropped to P2.28 billion during the period from P13.25 billion in 2008, when the company owed P7.9 billion in debt. As of end-March, Meralco's long term obligations stood at P13.75 billion.

In the meantime, Andrada said the company might also borrow for its planned pilot test of the broadband over power lines (BPL) project.

Earlier, Mario Lopez, vice president and chief information officer of Meralco, said the company was expecting to "pilot (test) the equipment for the BPL project in August."

Pilot tests, which would be conducted in the Makati area, are expected to run for several months, he added.

Lopez said the BPL project was still in "very early stages," although Meralco had already conducted an inspection of the power facilities to be used.

He said the BPL project was part of an even bigger project dubbed "Smart Grid."

He said the smart grid project would allow utilities like Meralco to remotely monitor all facilities in the field and check transformers and transmission lines, with the use of power lines.

"This means using power lines as means of communications," he added. "What happens is that we are able to monitor [facilities] remotely, unlike what we're doing now where you need to physically inspect all these facilities," he said.

















NTC ban seen to affect legit SMS services

In targeting content providers, gov't said to have it all wrong

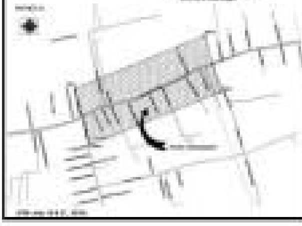
Promises to creep

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

At ₱153B, gov't keeps . . .

Telco regulator 'powerless' to act . . .



SMC eyes ₱15-B Tarlac-La Union . . .

Shares close up



BSP reviewing interest rate policy

Positive developments may prompt shift

Additional incentives for exporters sought



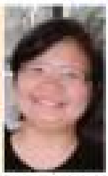
Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan

LIFESTYLE Wellness

ICanServe to join Livestrong summit in Ireland



LANCE Armstrong



CARLA Paras-Sison

GARFIELD





PUGAD BABOY

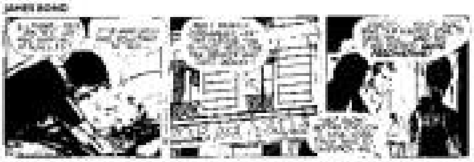


DICK TRACY



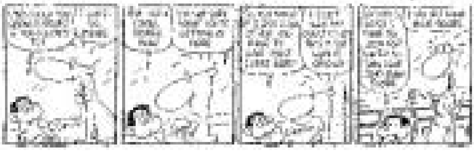


JAMES BOND





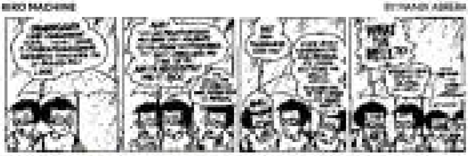
BABY BLUES





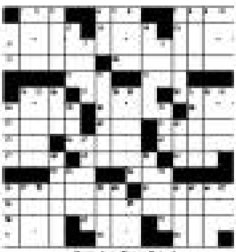


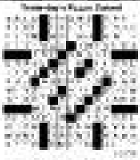




HOROSCOPE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

4			5		9	7		1
	9	1		2			6	
5				6			8	
6								7
	7	8				5	9	
2								4
	3			7				9
	8			4		3	5	
9		5	2		6			8

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

9	7	2	5	4	6	8	1	3
8	5	6	1	2	3	9	4	7
4	1	3	9	8	7	5	6	2
1	9	5	6	3	8	2	7	4
3	8	7	2	9	4	6	5	1
6	2	4	7	5	1	3	9	8
5	3	9	4	1	2	7	8	6
2	6	1	8	7	9	4	3	5
7	4	8	3	6	5	1	2	9

Archery teaches Kit Cojuangco how to 'let go'



ARCHERY stance: The bow is held in the hand opposite to the archer's dominant eye.

STANDING IN THE snow, facing strong winds, Enrique "Kit" Cojuangco Delgado Jr. was up against French champion Dominique Genet. In the elimination round of the World Cup in Korea, both had outscored other countries and reached the highest points of 111 each.

> 'You can't compete with a distressed spirit. You've got to shoot with a clear mind'

Arm extension

John Robert Powers joins modeling, talent contest in New York

Free intro to Kabbalah

Zonta bazaar

Museum assembly

Polymer seminar

Information and Immunity, Best Defense Against Swine Flu.

With over 10,000 infected people and 80 deaths all over the world, including the Philippines, the recent Swine flu or Influenza A(H1N1) scare has brought to light the growing concern of health and safety issues that may be beyond our control. In the past few years, several health issues have caught the world unaware and unprepared. SARS, bird flu and now, Influenza A(H1N1); people are left scared and confused—what's the next killer epidemic? Can we stop it? How will we survive it?

Swine Flu

Symptoms

Prevention

A Strong Immune System



Excessive exercise can lead to overeating

Gloria Diaz promotes benefits of healthy lifestyle

INSIDE OUT



Cory Quirino

Seaweed helps prevent weight gain

Is mental power a gift or curse?

INNER AWARENESS



Jaime T. Licauco

ENTERTAINMENT



A SCENE from "Boy": Aries Pelo, Belinda and Aeriel Asis

'Boy' comes out of closet

Diet shares blessings with 1,500 kids



DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

Breakup blues

Luke's MJ tribute

Chance encounter

CINEMA ACCESS: 395-5555

MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 HARRY POTTER 6
5 HARRY POTTER 6
6 ICE AGE 3: (DIGITAL 3D)
7 HANNAH MONTANA / HARRY POTTER 6
8 INDIEFLIX: BRUTUS / HARRY POTTER 6
9 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
10 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen

ERMITA

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
5 HARRY POTTER 6
6 HARRY POTTER 6
7 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW

METRO EAST

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 HARRY POTTER 6
5 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
6 HARRY POTTER 6
7 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
8 VILLA ESTRELLA

NOVALICHES

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
3 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
4 HARRY POTTER 6

PIONEER

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW



STA. ROSA

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
4 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen

LIPA

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 ICE AGE 3: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS
4 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen

DASMARIÑAS

1 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
2 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 HARRY POTTER 6

IMUS

1 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
2 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 HARRY POTTER 6

STARMILLS

1 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 VILLA ESTRELLA
4 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
5 HARRY POTTER 6
6 HARRY POTTER 6

ANGELES

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 THE PROPOSAL SNEAK PREVIEW
3 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
4 HARRY POTTER 6

TACLOBAN

1 ICE AGE 3 / HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 VILLA ESTRELLA

BACOLOD

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 ICE AGE 3: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS
5 VILLA ESTRELLA
6 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen

ILOILO

1 HARRY POTTER 6
2 HARRY POTTER 6
3 HARRY POTTER 6
4 ICE AGE 3: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS
5 TRANSFORMERS: Revenge of the Fallen
6 VILLA ESTRELLA



SM CINEMA



SNEAK PREVIEW

At these SM Cinemas:

SM Manila
SM North Edsa
SM Megamall
SM Mall of Asia
SM Sta. Mesa
SM Fairview
SM Marikina
SM San Lazaro
SM Sta. Rosa
SM Clark
SM Pampanga

SM CINEMA

Regular showing starts JULY 29

METRO MANILA

RESERVED SEATS NOW AVAILABLE

THE PODIUM

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE

TRANSFORMERS 2: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN

IMAX

SM MALL OF ASIA — HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE

SM NORTH EDSA — HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE

LATE SCREENINGS

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE

ICE AGE 3: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE

LUZON

VISAYAS • MINDANAO

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS NOW ACCEPTED IN ALL SM CINEMA BRANCHES

'Boy' comes out of closet

The film has been praised, banned abroad

Good reviews

'Rosalinda'...

'Overwhelming'

'The Biggest Loser'...

6 MJ ...









'Rosalinda' on the road

'The Biggest Loser' is a winner

REVIEW

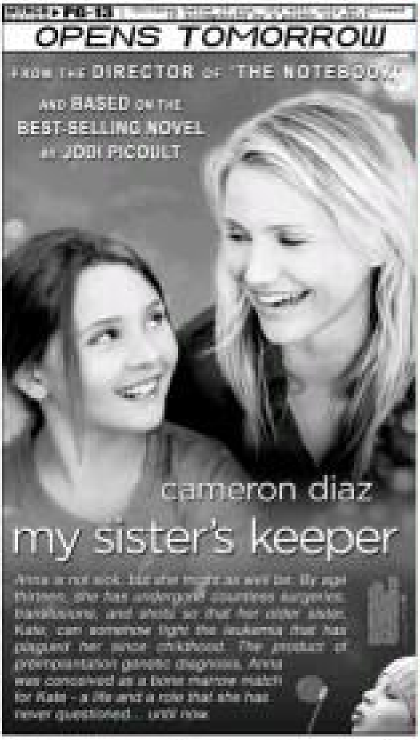
Regional edition

Drama factor









6 MJ albums enter chart

Overall

OPM

US Top 10 singles

